

I'm writing to report my concern about Sinclair Broadcasting's decision to air an anti-Kerry "documentary" days before the election. Since they are forcing their stations to air this propaganda without offering equal time to pro-Kerry or anti-Bush propaganda, this is a clear example of the dangers of media consolidation.

In theory, Sinclair is obligated by law to serve the public interest. But when large companies control the airwaves, we are more likely to see a one-sided presentation than we are to get the information we need to sustain our democracy. "Stolen Honor", a partisan piece thinly disguised as news, is precisely the sort of presentation that limited ownership rules must prevent. I believe that democracy is at stake when we allow a few groups to control what everyone reads and sees.

Sinclair's actions show why we need to strengthen media ownership rules, not weaken them. They show why the license renewal process needs to involve more than a returned postcard. Thank you.